



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS ATLANTA FUGITIVE ALIENS

ATLANTA—U.S. Immigration and Customs (ICE) fugitive operations officers arrested two area men here Tuesday and Wednesday who were ordered to depart the country by immigration judges, but ignored the orders.

Elisse Pierre, a citizen of Haiti, and Oscar Alarez-Cruz, a citizen of El Salvador, were apprehended at their separate residences without incident.

In addition to being a fugitive, Alarez-Cruz is an aggravated felon whose convictions include battery, simple assault, and multiple serious traffic violations.

"These men refused to comply with the court's order to leave the country," said ICE Field Office Director John Mata, who oversees ICE's alien arrest and removal operations in Atlanta. "Both received due process as afforded under the law, yet they still tried to avoid deportation. Such disregard for the law makes them public safety threats and that's unacceptable. ICE remains committed to restoring integrity to the immigration system through law enforcement actions like this."

The two are eligible for immediate removal from the country and are being detained until that time.

During fiscal year 2004, ICE's Atlanta personnel arrested and deported 3,200 illegal aliens from Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Of these, 556 were fugitives who had been ordered to depart the country, but failed to comply.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.